QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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24th September 2020

Thursday 24th September - Covid Update and Advice for All Parents

Dear Parents

Following on from our letter yesterday, we are writing with an update regarding the positive cases of COVID-19 in school.

One year 7 class and one year 8 class, plus any identified close contacts, have been asked to stay at home until Thursday 1st October. The close contacts have all been notified by telephone and by letter. Therefore, if you have not been contacted, it is safe for your child to come to school.

Year 10 students are to continue with remote learning from home on Friday 25th September and further information will be forthcoming for Year 10 parents tomorrow. We apologise for the delay. However, we are awaiting further information about cases related to this cohort and therefore, the safest option for Year 10 and other students currently attending school is for Year 10 to continue working remotely for now. We remain committed to ensuring that school is open and as many students as possible are able to attend. These measured actions are to ensure the safety of our whole school community.

All areas of the school continue to receive enhanced cleaning through the day and every evening and all areas of the school accessed by the students who tested positive have had additional cleaning. Form tutors have updated members of their tutor group on the situation and offered them reassurance. We are regularly reviewing all actions we are taking, and I believe appropriate measures have been taken to continue to ensure the safety of students and staff.

We remain in contact with the families with positive test outcomes and we are delighted that the children are well in themselves with only minor symptoms.

We will continue to update the community as more information arises. However, if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school. Should you have any concerns about this please contact your child's Form Tutor or Progress Leader by email to avoid busy phone lines.
https://www.queenelizabeths.derbyshire.sch.uk/contact-us/

Reminders:
What to do if your child develops symptoms of COVID 19
If your child develops symptoms of COVID-19, they must not come to school, you must inform school of the absence and you must request a test via https://www.nhs.uk/ask-for-a-coronavirus-test or by calling 119.

You must also notify the school of a positive test outcome using this designated telephone number 07890 319042 during the school day and out of hours. This telephone number must only be used for positive Covid test outcomes. This will ensure that parents can avoid other busy school telephone lines, notifying us quickly, enabling us to react and respond appropriately.

If a positive test is returned, the 14-day period starts from the day when the first person in the house became ill. Household members should not go to work, school or visit public areas and exercise should be taken within the home.

Further information about positive test outcomes is available at: https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-stay-at-home-guidance/stay-at-home-guidance-for-households-with-possible-coronavirus-covid-19-infection

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Symptoms

The most common symptoms of coronavirus (COVID-19) are recent onset of:

- *a new continuous cough*
- *a high temperature*
- *a loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell (anosmia)*

For most people, coronavirus (COVID-19) will be a mild illness.

If your child does develop symptoms, you can seek advice from the nhs.uk website at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/check-if-you-have-coronavirus-symptoms/. If you are concerned about your child's symptoms, or they are worsening you can seek advice from NHS 111 at https://111.nhs.uk/ or by phoning 111.

How to stop COVID-19 spreading

There are things you can do to help reduce the risk of you and anyone you live with getting ill with COVID-19

Do

- *wash your hands with soap and water often – do this for at least 20 seconds*
- *use hand sanitiser gel if soap and water are not available*
- *wash your hands as soon as you get home*
- *cover your mouth and nose with a tissue or your sleeve (not your hands) when you cough or sneeze*
- *put used tissues in the bin immediately and wash your hands afterwards*

Further Information

Further information is available at https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/

Yours faithfully

Mr S Garrity
Headteacher